Amendment of Copy Right Act

1584. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Copyright Act to remove the loopholes therein; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the suggestions received from various groups, the Government propose to amend the Copyright Act, 1957 to make it more comprehensive and effective. However, the proposal is in a preliminary stage.

Proposal to set up Medical Institute at Patna

1585. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up an institute at Patna in Bihar State on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences:

(b) if so, the amount of Central assistance proposed to be given to the institute; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Union Government so far and by when the institute is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Pension to Journalists

1586. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure pension to the journalists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The question of providing a pension scheme, inter-alia, for the working journalists in the wider framework of the Employees' Provident Fund has been considered by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund and they have made certain recommendations. The recommendations of the Board are presently under consideration of the Government.

Setting up of Sports Institutions and Provision of Play Grounds in Rural Areas

1587. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish sports institutions and construct play grounds in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for rural areas of Varanasi district also;

(d) the details of the work proposed to be undertaken in the rural areas of Varanasi; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN &